

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MELBOU 00718 010117Z

73

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 FMC-04 CG-00 COA-02

PM-07 H-03 L-03 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 SSO-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 OMB-01 AGR-20 RSR-01 /114 W

----- 104081

O R 010050Z AUG 73

FM AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1713

INFO AMCONSUL BRISBANE

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL PERTH

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

UNCLAS MELBOURNE 0718

FOR STATE AND LABOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, AS

SUBJECT: MELBOURNE WATERFRONT CLOSED DOWN BY GENERAL STRIKE.

1. MEMBERS OF 20 UNIONS WORKING MELBOURNE WATERFRONT
CLOSED DOWN INDEFINITELY IN SUPPORT OF WAGE CLAIMS BY
10 FIRST-AID OFFICERS EMPLOYED BY PORT; OVER 7,000
MEN INVOLVED. IMMEDIATELY AFFECTED ARE 25 SHIPS NOW
IN PORT.

2. UNION CASE NOW BEING HANDLED BY VICTORIA TRADES
HALL COUNCIL WHOSE SECRETARY KEN STONE ASSURED LABATT
AUGUST 1 THAT SITUATION WOULD BE MORE CLEAR LATER IN
DAY WHEN EMPLOYERS REPLY WILL BE RECEIVED BY
UNION COMMITTEE. STONE ALSO SAID THAT ALL ISSUES
AFFECTING PORT, INCLUDING THREATENED ACTION BY
WATERSIDE WORKERS UNION OVER CONTINUED CAMBODIAN
BOMBING WILL BE DISCUSSED.

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3. COMMENT: FOR DEPARTMENT - LABATT EMPHASIZES THIS
ISSUE COMPLETELY UNRELATED STOPPAGE THREATENED OVER
CAMBODIAN BOMBINGS. SUGGEST THIS POINT BE EMPHASIZED
WITH AFL-CIO CONTACTS TO ENSURE COMPLETE UNDERSTANDING
AND TO HEAD OFF PRECIPITANT ACTION US WATERFRONT
UNIONS. INCLUSION THIS ISSUE IN CURRENT DISCUSSIONS
MERELY EXPEDIENT USED BY TRADES HALL LEADERS TO CONTAIN IT
WITHIN WHAT HAS NOW BECOME LARGER ISSUE. WILL ADVISE
OUTCOME SOONEST.
BROWN

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NNN

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Event:
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Disposition Remarks:
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30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: ELAB, AS
To: STATE
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Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005